

**Specialized Services** (pertaining to a serious mental illness):

Specialized services are those services specified by the Arizona Department of Health Services, Division of Behavioral Health Services (ADHS/DBHS) that, when combined with services provided by the NF, result in continuous and aggressive implementation of an individualized plan of care. The plan of care:

- a. Is developed and supervised by an interdisciplinary team which includes a physician, qualified mental health professionals, and, as appropriate, other professionals;
- b. Prescribes specific therapies and activities for the treatment of persons experiencing an acute episode of serious mental illness and requiring inpatient/hospital psychiatric treatment, that necessitates supervision by trained mental health personnel, and
- c. Is directed toward:
  - (1) Diagnosing and reducing the person's behavioral symptoms that necessitate institutionalization;
  - (2) Improving his/her level of independent functioning; and
  - (3) Achieving a functioning level that permits reduction in the intensity of mental health services to below the level of specialized services at the earliest possible time.